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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

November 19, 2003 ♦ **WEDNESDAY**



A bitter taste

Women's soccer season started with high expectations that were crushed in Missouri loss.

Page 12 SPORTS

Online surveys deemed OK by legal counsel

♦ *Student Government explores Web site that will allow students to rate their teachers*

By **Brian O'Malley**
STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORTER

Online teacher surveys get a legal thumbs-up from Eastern's legal counsel.

Academic Affairs Committee Chair Nikki Kull has decided to build a Web site, which would allow students to answer questions about teachers and rate them on a 1-5 scale. Students would then use the ratings to choose classes.

"The way that we're doing it would not be libel or slander," Kull said.

A group of students and faculty members will come together later in the academic year to discuss the information that will be used on the Web site, Kull said.

Members of Eastern's legal counsel will then review the material to make sure libelous or slanderous comments have not been used.

The committee hopes to make the Web site available by Fall 2004, Kull said.

"I think it's going to be awesome once we get it up and running," Kull said. "I wish there was something like this when I was a freshman."

The committee will arrange a meeting with Information Technology Services to discuss the construction of the Web site, Kull said.

Committee Member Lindsey Baum said the Web site will be a good tool for students to use when choosing classes and would not insult teachers.

"It's going to be a really good thing for students," Baum said. "It would not be a place where students would slanderize the teachers."

Psychology professor Steve Scher said he supports the Web site and is helping the committee get in touch with faculty members.

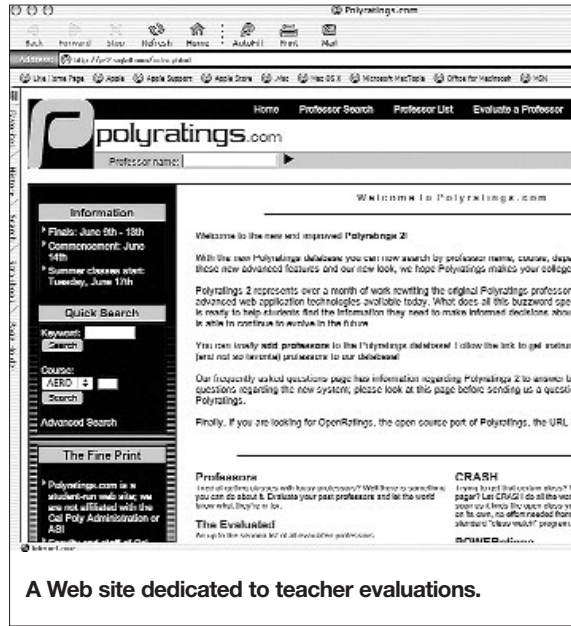
"I think it's good for the professors and it's good for



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Walking in a rainy wonderland

Sara Wagoner (left), sophomore journalism major, talks to Sara Frankie, sophomore elementary education major, Tuesday morning while walking to class (See story page 5)



A Web site dedicated to teacher evaluations.

the students," Scher said.

The teacher evaluations students fill out every semester will most likely not be used on the Web site because they are used as an aid for employment purposes, Scher said. "It gets really touchy if you start using those for multiple reasons."

The committee 1-5 rating system will be modified after the Web site has been up and running for a while, Scher said.

"I think there's some logistics that need to be worked out before the site is made," Scher said.

In the past, universities have handed out booklets filled with surveys about teachers, but a Web site would be easier, Scher said.

"The Web site is easily accessible and cheap," Scher said and he would want students to use the Web site to find a way to challenge themselves.

"I'm happy when students come into my class expecting it to be hard," Scher said. "If a student comes into my class and doesn't do any work, it's better for both of us if he wasn't there."

Eastern student hits pedestrian in car accident

♦ *Two involved in incident early Sunday morning*

Michael Schroeder
STAFF WRITER

An Eastern student was struck by a car Sunday, but has since been released from Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital.

Elementary education major Katherine Burke was hit by another Eastern student at the corner of Pierce Avenue and Third Street. She was treated for leg injuries.

At 2:17 a.m., the driver of the vehicle, Dustin R. Adair, 20, was traveling southbound on Third, and was making a right-hand turn onto Pierce when his car struck Burke.

The Charleston Police Department report said the "front passenger side of the car struck the pedestrian, causing injury to the leg."

Biological sciences major Jessica Lynch was walking with the pedestrian and said Adair performed the turn "at a high rate of speed."

The police report stated both Lynch and Burke said that the driver drove over the sidewalk and curb "performing too tight of a turn."

Adair has been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Adair told the officer on the scene that "It's my fault; I didn't see her. I've had 8 beers and shouldn't have been behind the wheel."

Adair was not available for comment.

Reed: university will lose a leader

♦ *Carol Strode, retiring from her facilities position next month, will be missed across campus*

By **Brittany Robson**
STAFF WRITER

Carol Strode announced her retirement from the university Nov. 1, and many say Eastern is losing a leader.

Strode, director of facilities planning and management, has been an Eastern employee for 36 years. She is "truly going to be missed," said President Lou Hencken.

"Carol has had a number of accomplishments. (With her) in charge of the library renovation and the food court, if

not handled correctly, could have been a disaster," Hencken said.

Director of the Physical Plant Gary Reed is going to take over Strode's position December 1.

"I have huge shoes to fill," Reed said.

"I devoted an awful lot of time out here, which I loved thoroughly," Strode said last week.

The facilities management department is going to be short two administrators when Strode leaves, so Reed said he will have an even heavier work load.

"Carol has great leadership skills and took on a tremendous work load," Reed said.

"If the right people don't get things done, it would be a mess, but Carol has the ability to work with people and keep everything running smoothly," Hencken

"I devoted an awful lot of time out here, which I loved thoroughly."

—Carol Strode, director of facilities planning and management

said.

Because there are many different components to Strode's position, not one person will take over all of her responsibilities.

For example, administrative assistant Jim Nantz said he will keep his role

SEE LEADER ♦ Page 7

Workshop plans to help students relax

By Andrea Stankewych
STAFF WRITER

Many students have five exams to study for, a job to hold onto and a million other things life entails. But what is the best way to handle it all?

A Counseling Center Lifeskills Workshop titled "Stress!!!!" is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Effingham room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, intended to educate students on the causes of and solutions to stress.

According to Wendy Buesing and Angela Krischon of the Counseling Center, stress is the wear and tear people's bodies experience as they adjust to a continually changing environment.

"I think a lot of college students feel stressed through and during their educational experience," Buesing said. "Students should learn how stress impacts a lot of areas in our life and learn how to deal with stress through healthy ways so it doesn't have any long-term negative effects."

The event will include handouts on stress and quizzes to see how stressed students really are at that particular time, the symptoms of stress and the differences between healthy stress and unhealthy stress.

Krischon and Buesing will

If you go:

◆ **What:** Lifeskills workshop presented by the Counseling Center about stress

◆ **When:** 7:30 p.m.

◆ **Where:** Effingham Room of the union

also speak about the ways people respond to stress and how it can lead into a worse case down the road. They plan to end the informational on a positive note with a relaxation tape.

This workshop is held once a semester; however, students can come to the Counseling Center to talk about the stress they are dealing with. Buesing said students who want to learn more about stress and their bodies dealing with it should attend this informational.

About 15-20 students are expected to attend the workshop, Buesing said. She urged students to come and learn what stress is all about.

"We hope everybody walks away with less stress and the feeling that they have tools to deal with stress in the future," said Krischon and Buesing.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY JAMIE FETTY

Charleston City Council Member Lorelei Sims talks to council member Larry Rannels and student City Council Liaison Kyle Donash about extended bar hours to 2 a.m. on weekends for a trial period. Sims didn't think the hour extension would cut down on drunk driving, rowdiness and house parties as much as lowering the bar-entry age to 19 would.

Charleston moves closer to extended bar hours

By Carly Mulhady
CITY EDITOR

A proposal to extend local bar hours is open for public inspection following council approval Tuesday night.

An ordinance permitting Charleston bars to remain open until 2 a.m. on weekends with a 1:45 a.m. final serving time was placed on file until the Tuesday, Dec. 2 meeting.

The ordinance came in response to an Eastern Student Senate resolution requesting bar hours be extended as means of reducing after-hour house parties, limiting student travel to Champaign where bars remain open and promoting drinking in a controlled environment.

"I very much appreciate the Student Senate's work with administrators, working with the city to try to address the real problem, which is inappropriate behavior," Mayor Dan Cougill said.

The ordinance specifies self-termination at midnight June 30, though City Attorney Brian Bower said council has the power to rein-

state earlier hours at any time found necessary.

Council member Lorelei Sims voiced concerns that a time extension would not solve the issues introduced in the Senate resolution.

She said other communities' residents may drive here for the additional hour and that residents here under 21-years-old will continue participating in house parties because they cannot get into the bars.

"It's not that I don't support 1:00 a.m. on Friday's and Saturday's," she said. "I think there are better ways to reduce concerns."

"A 19 bar entry age will address everything you've got here better," Sims said despite the threat of "opening up another can of worms."

Council voted in favor of filing the ordinance to be voted on next meeting.

Should the ordinance be approved, it will expire June 30 unless council votes in its favor again.

Cougill said Council will discuss the plan's successes and failures

then and decide whether to make the ordinance permanent.

In other business:

◆ Council approved an ordinance changing Seventh Street to one-way southbound from Lincoln Avenue to Johnson Avenue in correlation with traffic light movement from Seventh to Ninth Street.

◆ A settlement agreement with the Charleston Firefighters Union was tabled because Council has not received necessary documents.

◆ An ordinance amending the city's comptroller position was tabled until the Dec. 2 meeting.

◆ An agreement giving Interim City Manager Scott Smith the official City Manager title was tabled until the next meeting.

◆ The city's worker's compensation insurance bid award was issued to Diamond Brothers of Mattoon. Cougill said they were the lowest bidder at \$258,241, approximately \$200,000 less than the other two bids received.

City Editor Carly Mulhady can be reached at LoisLayne3@aol.com.

POLICE BLOTTER

Driving while intoxicated:

Eastern student Dustin R. Adair, 2413 Stoner Dr. East, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor after striking a pedestrian Sunday at Third Street and Pierce Avenue. The victim, Eastern student Katherine A. Burke, was treated and released from Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, police reports said.

Purchase/acceptance of alcohol by a minor:

Michael J. Consentino, 18, of Carman Hall, was charged with purchase and acceptance of alcohol by a minor and possession of another's ID. Alessandra Sherbino, 20, of Andrews Hall, and Michael P. Betacourt, 20, 1836 11th Street, were both charged with purchase and acceptance of alcohol by a minor, possession of another's ID, misrepresentation of age by a minor and minor frequenting a licensed premises Friday at the 1500 block of Seventh Street, according to police reports.

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PHONE 217-581-2812 (fax 581-2923)

E-MAIL: jfeasternnews@hotmail.com

NIGHT STAFF

Night editor: John Chambers
News Design: Dan Valenziano
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Week for packing away smokes

Well everyone, run to wherever you need to run to, the "Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" special edition DVD is in stores now. You may say, "Dan, you're such a nerd," or "Dan, you have no life." Both of those may be true, but at least ... umm ... I got nothin'.



by Ryan Groff, Hello Dali and Lunchbox Voodoo. Games, prizes and food will be available at the event, which costs \$3 at the door. Students are encouraged to wear pajamas, but let's keep it clean folks. If you're pjs are deemed too "revealing," you'll be denied access. I know, I know, there aren't many activities for nudists on campus, but I just don't think Eastern is ready for it.

Activities for Wednesday

◆ **International Forum:** from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The event features economics professor Teshome Abebe, speaking on the topic of "The African Experience: a discussion of political and economical aspects of Africa."

◆ **Extravaganza Pajama Party:** from 7 to 10 p.m. at 7th Street Underground, located in the Union. The event, sponsored by Alpha Psi Omega, will feature performances

Activities for Thursday

◆ **Great American Smokeout:** It's an all-day national event put on by the American Cancer Society. The ACS encourages

smokers to "quit for a lifetime by starting with just one day." You all know how much I hate to pontificate (giggle giggle), but smoking cigarettes sucks. I've seen a lot of people die of lung cancer, and it's not a pretty sight. It's not a joke, DON'T SMOKE. That was sooo bad, but if you're laughing at me it's harder to do it with a cigarette in your mouth. Haha, put that in your pipe and smoke it. No, wait! Don't put anything in a pipe and smoke it.

◆ **Free Dietary Assessments:** anytime you want. If your diet (and I'm sure you're not alone on this one) consists of pizza and Pabst Blue Ribbon, you might want to give the Health Education Resource Center a call at 581-7786 and get some feedback on your pig-out schedule. Although pizza gives you dairy, carbs, protein and veggies (depending on the toppings), it may not be enough.



Kyle Donash (left), listens to Nikki Kull's (right) question to the Student Senate about lowering the bar age to 19 in Charleston inside the Lumpkin Auditorium Tuesday evening. Donash is the Chair of External Affairs at Eastern and Kull is the Chair of Academic Affairs for Student Senate.

Committee tries to breathe new life into Charleston's nightlife

By Brian O'Malley
STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORTER

Students and local business owners have concerns about Charleston's nightlife and ideas on how to keep students in town on the weekends.

The Student Senate Student Relations Committee held a forum Tuesday in the Lumpkin Auditorium with about 30 students and local bar and business owners in attendance to discuss the night scene.

Committee Member Matt Kulp said in his two years at Eastern he has noticed a drastic change in the amount of students who stay in Charleston on the weekends.

"I know when I was a freshman here, the campus always seemed more packed, but now it seems like everybody goes home," Kulp said.

Paul Mejdrich, president of the Charleston Licensed Beverage Association and owner of E.L. Crackers, said more students would stay in Charleston if the bar entrance age was lowered to 19.

"As soon as more people start staying in town, the town's income will increase," Mejdrich said.

The group talked about underage drinking and how it could increase if underage students were allowed in the bars.

"We're going to do everything we can to make sure that doesn't happen," Mejdrich said.

Candice Anderson, president of SONAR, said students under 21 have limited options when finding somewhere to go at night.

"Right now in Charleston, there are two options if you are under 21; bowling and Wal-Mart," Anderson said.

"A lot of students don't just go to the bar to drink, they go to the bar to be with their friends," Anderson said about allowing 19 year olds into bars.

Kulp said lowering the bar entrance age would help Charleston economically.

"It would be a huge economic move for Charleston," Kulp said. "I think everyone would prosper from it."

Kulp also said he would like to see the age lowered, but he questioned whether or not the bars would be too crowded.

"I don't think you'd run out of room in bars, because people will start going to bars that aren't usually crowded on the weekends," Anderson said, responding to Kulp.

The group also discussed the problem of students asking for new businesses but not using them.

Mejdrich said students kept asking for a 24 hour restaurant in Charleston, but since Lincoln Garden has opened, he hasn't seen it crowded at night.

"I thought it was a good step for Lincoln Garden to be open 24 hours," Mejdrich said. "It's easy to say what you want, but are you willing to patronize it? Are you willing to use

what you wanted?"

Keith Bliss, owner of Jitters and Bliss, said the city and university are competing with each other more than working together.

"As a business owner, it's very tough to compete against the university," Bliss said. "There needs to be a connection between the city and the university."

Dulcy Dawson, co-owner of Jackson Avenue Coffee, agreed with Bliss and said the city needs to work with the university.

"We understand that Charleston wouldn't be here if it weren't for Eastern," Dawson said.

Dawson, her husband Ryan and Evan Kubicek own the the coffee house and said students don't go there very often.

Committee Member Deanna Cappelto said the square is too far for some students to walk.

"Students are lazy," Cappelto said. "Walking to the square," she said, "that's a far walk."

The group agreed that places like Lincoln Garden and Jackson Avenue Coffee don't receive much student business because of how far the establishments are from campus.

Student Body President Caleb Judy said the university should give more opportunities to students looking for somewhere to go at night.

"I think the university does have an obligation to supply entertainment for

University Board to ask for more funds

◆ *Apportionment Board to vote on more than \$8,000 and violate Open Meetings Act*

By Kevin Sampier
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The Apportionment Board will vote on two requests from the University Board for a total of \$8,215 Wednesday, in a meeting that will violate the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Apportionment Board Chair Larry Ward said UB Special Events will ask for a \$6,000 additional allocation for Spring 2004 entertainment, and will request \$2,215 be transferred from UB's marketing account to UB's general costs account to fund an upcoming trip.

This is the fifth time this semester UB has asked AB for additional funds.

Ward said if the money is approved, UB plans to spend the \$6,000 on a Valentine's Day dance, a Spring Fling and a Collegiate Bowl, among other things.

The \$2,215 will pay for a trip to a meeting of the National Association of Campus Activities for UB members, if approved.

In a memo to Ward, UB Chair Jennifer Kieffer said, "the goal of the University Board Special Events Committee was to expand on low cost and innovative programming this year."

A second memo explains why money is needed for a trip to Cincinnati where UB members will "negotiate discounted entertainment with agents at special NACA prices."

The AB meeting was originally scheduled for Thursday, but was moved to Wednesday because two members could not make the originally scheduled time, Ward said.

The change to the meeting time does not give the 48-hours advance notice required by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, and puts AB in violation of the act.

Apportionment Board meeting

- ◆ **WHEN:** 9 p.m.
- ◆ **WHERE:** Martinsville Room of the Union
- ◆ **ISSUES:** UB's request of \$8,215



"The goal of the University Board Special Events Committee was to expand on low cost and innovative programming this year."

—Jennifer Kieffer, UB chair

Ward said he knows the new meeting time will violate the act, but said "in all due respect to the Illinois Open Meeting Act, I feel it's necessary to take care of the business at hand before Thanksgiving break."

The act says "every public body shall give public notice of the schedule of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year and shall state the regular dates, times, and places of such meetings."


An agenda for each regular meeting shall be posted at the principal office of the public body and at the location where the meeting is to be held at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of the meeting."

The violation comes just weeks after the Student Senate violated the act for holding an illegal meeting, in which members of the press were asked to leave. The senate violated the closed/executive session requirement of the act.

The Apportionment Board will meet at 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Martinsville Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Student Government editor Kevin Sampier can be reached at k_sampier@hotmail.com

!!ATTENTION DECEMBER GRADS!!



Are you looking for an **Inside Sales position** which will open doors to a career in outside sales, sales management, marketing, operations, logistics and beyond? This is your company!

This nationwide company has a position available in their Chicago Office.....a representative will be **on campus interviewing on December 4, 2003**. Open to December graduates. Contact **Debbie Endsley** at 581-2412, or stop by the **Career Services** office at 1303 Human Services Building.

Thanksgiving Break
University Union Bus Service to Chicago
Bus Departure Times

Thursday, November 20th			Friday, November 21st		
TWO CONVENIENT PICK UP POINTS			TWO CONVENIENT PICK UP POINTS		
4:30pm - 4:45 pm - Union between Park Place Apt. & UPD			2:30pm-2:45pm Union between Park Place Apt. &UPD		
4:50pm - 5:05pm - 9th Street Greek Court by ATM			2:50pm-3:05pm 9th St. Greek Court by ATM		
Destination	Arrive	Depart	Destination	Arrive	Depart
Matteson	7:45	5:50	Matteson	5:50	5:50
Chicago Ridge	8:20	5:20	Chicago Ridge	6:25	5:20
OakBrook	8:40	4:40	OakBook	6:45	4:40
Woodfield	9:10	4:10	Woodfield	7:15	4:10
Northbrook	9:55	3:30	Northbrook	8:00	3:30
Old Orchard	10:20	3:10	Old Orchard	8:25	3:10



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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jfeasternnews@hotmail.com

EDITORIAL

Technology fee needs to be utilized

Despite the ongoing \$6 million network renovation plan, Internet speed throughout campus buildings and residence halls moves at a crawl when it works at all.

And headlines in *The Daily Eastern News* proclaiming wireless Internet soon "saturating" campus, new concerns have risen over where the technology fee is being spent and the priorities of Information Technology Services.

Each Eastern student currently pays \$48 each semester toward the technology fee, and a whopping \$6 million has accumulated thus far despite the fact the only improvements made to the network have been new routers and switches.

According to Chat Chatterji, ITS assistant vice president, new fiber and copper cabling along with additional routers and switches will be entirely installed by September 2004, but the estimate seems overly optimistic. When ethernet access was installed in residence halls two years ago, the project limped to completion more than a year late of the initial deadline.

Despite Chatterji's confidence, a new network or wireless access for students presents a daunting task at best.

Chatterji admitted Eastern's network is "archaic" and "very fragile and unreliable," but said progress is being made each time the network is given a small router or wiring upgrade. As for major holdups, Chatterji could only offer factors of time, money and availability. He reiterated fixing the network was the top priority and that wireless access could take between two and three years depending solely on funds.

The problem is in the fact students are paying a sizable fee each semester and seeing little to no results. Progress may be getting made, as Chatterji put it, but any of this "progress" is invisible to the average student who cannot access e-mail, research papers or participate in online activities for class.

If the technology department is to fully justify such a hefty fee, results beyond mere network Band-Aids are necessary. If the university is sitting on \$6 million and growing, why not begin doling out funds as required by basic network priorities?

No matter how much money the school accumulates, refusing to make major upgrades simply will not sate students who feel their money has not been put to adequate use.
The editorial is the majority opinion of the Daily Eastern News editorial board.

OPINION

Chief Illiniwek based in racism



Michelle LeMaster
Guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News

LeMaster also is a professor of history

I was disappointed to read Matthew Stevens' column "The Chief should be supported" which appeared in the Nov. 12 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*. Stevens' article was laden with factual errors and did not address the reasons Chief Illiniwek is offensive to American Indians.

First, let me address the factual errors. The War Chant and the half-time dance are NOT authentic. Even University of Illinois administrators admit as much. The chief was introduced in 1926 by the U of I band director, after a consultation with a local Boy Scout who claimed to have been taught a "traditional Sioux" dance. The chief's costume is based (loosely) on Lakota (Sioux) ceremonial garb, not that of the Illinois Indians.

The dance itself is a misinterpretation of Lakota dances. The music was written by the band director using Hollywood scores as its basis. Modern Lakota have proven that the Chief is not even authentically Lakota. Further, the Lakota people were the avowed enemies of the Illinois, and the two groups had few cultural practices in common.

Using the Illinois' traditional enemies to "honor" them seems a strange choice. Finally, the modern descendants of local native peoples prefer to be called Illinois, not Illiniwek.

The column failed to address the reasons why the Chief is offensive. The mascot originated in the context of white mockery

"Most white Americans now understand that such actions are offensive and insulting. Why are we less sensitive to the feelings of America's first peoples?"

of other races for "entertainment." It was common in the 1920s for white people to dress up in black-face in minstrel shows and ridicule African Americans.

Most white Americans now understand that such actions are offensive and insulting. Why are we less sensitive to the feelings of America's first peoples? To quote Chicago Tribune columnist Eric Zorn, "no institution with an ounce of sensitivity would paint a white man in blackface and have him perform ceremonial tribal dances at sporting events in honor of The Fighting Africans.... American Indians deserve at least that much respect."

Nearly every major Indian organization in the U.S. has come out in opposition of the chief, including the National Congress of American Indians (which represents hundreds of federally-recognized tribes) and the American Indian Council of Illinois. A recent Seminar on American

Indian Studies hosted by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation met in Chicago, largely because Native American scholars refused to go to the U of I. It is inappropriate for a government-funded institution like the U of I to perpetuate such an offensive and racist stereotype.

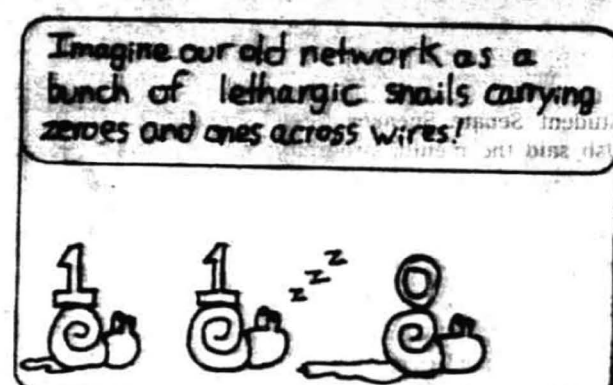
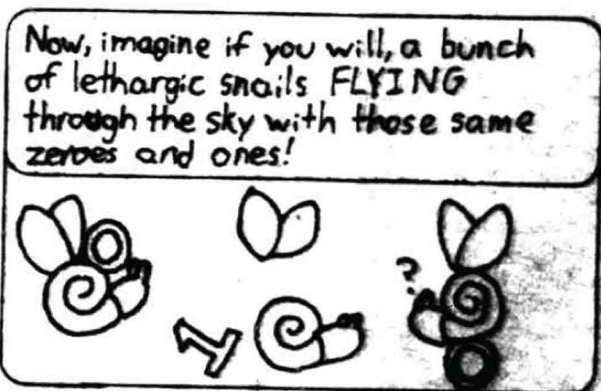
Supporters of the Chief argue that the mascot be retained because a majority of Illinois residents are "pro-Chief." However, there was a time when a majority of white Southerners supported racial segregation. The U.S. Constitution is intended to protect the rights of minorities against the tyranny of a majority. Just because a majority of people support an idea does not make it right.

White Americans need to educate themselves as to the legacy of colonialism, the history of American Indian policy, and the needs and concerns of modern native peoples.

Stevens also spoke passionately of the value of tradition. A tradition can be a positive thing if it reminds us of values we hold dear, such as equality and respect for others.

However, we need to evaluate carefully the nature of our traditions, and reject those that are based in values we despise. Chief Illiniwek is a tradition based in racist contempt for the true nature of a living people. Racism, I would argue, is neither a value we should support, nor a tradition we should perpetuate.

Cartoon by Adam Kouzmanoff



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Many responsible for pancake breakfast

This letter is to thank those individuals and community organizations that helped the Charleston Rotary Club hold its fourth annual Pancake Breakfast at Domino's Pizza the morning of the Eastern Homecoming Parade Oct. 25.

Nearly 400 people were served a hot breakfast on a damp morning and Rotary raised more than \$1,200. That is a major portion of the money necessary to provide "I Like Me" books to young readers in the Charleston School District next spring.

We especially want to thank Shawn Youell, area manager for Domino's, Tarvarse Peterson and the staff of the Charleston facility. Domino's gave us the run

of the shop for eight hours on Saturday morning before they opened at 11:30 a.m. Mooney Ford again supplied its tent and to hold the activity. Tables and chairs were supplied by Eastern's buildings and grounds staff.

The pancake cooker was on loan from the Villa Grove Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, brought to Charleston and retained with the help of Dr. James Wallace and the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. Patrick Slaughter of Gano Welding Supply set up the special 220 volt line to operate the cooker, and nearly a third of the Rotary membership helped throughout the morning to keep the pancakes hot and fresh.

Sausage was supplied by

Mike's Meats in Louisville, Ill., with other food supplied by What's Cookin', HAWkeye Foods and Country Market. Cooking utensils were supplied by Domino's, the Tarble Arts Center and Lincoln Log Cabin. Finally, thanks to Elmer Pullen for designating the 75th Anniversary Pancake Breakfast T-shirts.

Eastern's Homecoming Committee members provided the volunteer support to set up and take down tables and chairs. More than 30 members of Alpha Phi

Omega service fraternity helped with set up, cleaning tables and hospitality throughout the morning.

I would like to think that the Rotary Homecoming Breakfast has become a new tradition for Eastern Homecoming participants. Plan on having breakfast with Rotary again next year.

Chuck Eberly and Olivet Jagush
co-chairpersons, Charleston Rotary Club

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to The Daily Eastern News at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston, IL 61820; faxed to 217-581-2823; or e-mailed to jfeasternnews@hotmail.com.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Tuesday's rain created drainage problems throughout the area, making driving difficult in areas like Third Street, just south of Lincoln Avenue.

Mentor program to be discussed at next Student Senate meeting

By Kevin Sampier
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The Student Senate will vote on two senate bills Wednesday and discuss a bylaw change to “solidify” a senate member mentor program.

Student Senate Speaker Mike Walsh said the mentor program, which he created earlier this semester, has helped new senate members learn the ropes.

“It was a pilot program this semester,” Walsh said.

The program teams a new senator with a veteran senator and gives them a contact person for questions.

“I really think this program breaks down the boundaries in senate,” Walsh said. “It’s going to get rid of those boundaries.”

Walsh said this semester he was a mentor to the senate committee chairs.

Walsh said during a recent Legislative Leadership meeting, the idea was widely supported.

The leadership members also suggested a stronger orientation program for senate members, Walsh said.

“It’s a solution to the problem of not knowing what’s going on,” Walsh said of the program.

The proposed bylaw change will have to be tabled until the next senate meeting before a vote is taken.

Two senate bills will be voted on during the meeting. If approved, the respective bills will create a mission statement for the senate Diversity Affairs Committee and allocate \$278.40 for a shuttle bus phone schedule.

The Student Senate will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Arcola/Tuscola Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Student Government editor Kevin Sampier can be reached at k_sampier@hotmail.com.

Showers fall in South and Midwest, snow in the West

By The Associated Press

Showers fell from the Gulf Coast to the Great Lakes early Tuesday, while there was light snow in the western mountains.

A developing low pressure system was expected to bring increased showers and thunderstorms to the Midwest and Gulf states, with rainfall amounts of 1 inch in some locations. Patchy fog and light drizzle was forecast for the Northeast.

Thunderstorms were expected in the eastern Plains, with some bringing heavy downpours, large hail and strong wind gusts. Flash flooding was possible in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

In the West, moderate to locally heavy snow showers were forecast across the Cascades, the Sierra Nevadas and the central and northern Rockies. Rain showers were to continue in the Pacific Northwest.

Dry weather under partly cloudy skies was to domi-

More on the Web

National Weather Service:
<http://iwin.nws.noaa.gov>

Intellicast:
<http://www.intellicast.com>

Eastern Illinois University:
<http://cirrus.sprl.umich.edu/wxnet>

nate the southern Four Corners, the Desert Southwest and California.

Highs on Tuesday were forecast in the 40s over the Northeast and Northern Plains; 50s across the Great Lakes, Mid-Atlantic, Great Basin and Pacific Northwest; 60s over the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys, the Southeast and Central Plains; 70s over the Deep South, Desert Southwest and parts of California; and 80s over Florida.

Temperatures in the lower 48 states Monday ranged from a low of 8 degrees in Berlin, N.H., to a midday high of 84 degrees in Harlingen, Texas.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS
PHOTO BY CARLY MULLADY

Drain that vein

Sophomore psychology major Stephanie Riddell donates blood in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom Tuesday afternoon. The event was sponsored by the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority, and 75 units of blood were collected Tuesday.

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Police search Jackson's Neverland ranch

LOS OLIVOS, Calif. (AP) - Law officers conducting a criminal investigation searched Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch on Tuesday, a sheriff's spokesman said. The purpose of the search was not disclosed.

More than 20 investigators from the Santa Barbara County sheriff's and district attorney's offices served a warrant as part of an "ongoing criminal investigation," Sgt. Chris Pappas said in a statement.

The district attorney's office had no comment.

Jackson and his three young children were not at the ranch at the time, his spokesman, Stuart Backerman, told The Associated Press. They have been in Las Vegas, where Jackson is making a video, he said.

Backerman declined further comment, saying he lacked detailed information about the purpose of the investigation.

The 45-year-old singer who had interna-

tional hits with the albums "Thriller" (1982), "Bad" (1987) and "Dangerous" (1991) saw his career begin to collapse in 1993 amid allegations he molested a boy. Jackson has maintained his innocence, and charges were never filed. He reportedly paid a multimillion-dollar settlement.

Jackson is also connected to Hollywood private eye Anthony Pellicano, who began serving federal prison time Monday for possessing illegal explosives. Pellicano is under investigation on suspicion he secretly taped conversations of celebrities and their lawyers.

Pellicano, 59, worked for Jackson as a spokesman and security consultant during the abuse investigation.

The search came on the same day Epic Records released "Number Ones," a greatest hits collection featuring Jackson's new single, "One More Chance." On Nov. 26, CBS is scheduled to air a Jackson special consisting mainly of old concert footage.

King Jr.'s sons shift jobs at King Center

ATLANTA (AP) - One of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s sons is resigning as chief of the King Center, while another is stepping down as head of the civil rights group co-founded by his father 46 years ago.

Martin Luther King III, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference since 1998, will replace Dexter Scott King as president, chief executive and eventually chairman of the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, which was founded in 1968 to carry on the legacy of the late civil rights leader.

Their mother, Coretta Scott King, will be acting chairwoman of the King Center, starting in January. Eventually, after an unspecified amount of time, Martin King will become chairman.

Dexter King, 42, said the center's nine-member board of directors unanimously approved the moves Monday.

Dexter King told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that he plans to pursue "media and entertainment" projects. He has presiding over the King Center for nearly a decade but has been commuting from Malibu, Calif., since 2000.

In 1997, Dexter King reached an

agreement with Time Warner to repack and reissue his father's writings, including an "autobiography" actually written by Clayborne Carson, editor of the King Papers Project at Stanford University. He turned over memorabilia and artifacts for use in the National Park Service's new visitors center, located across the street, and he used technology to modernize the King Center.

"It's a good time to pass the baton," King said.

Martin King also said it was a good time to leave.

Two years ago, he was suspended as SCLC president for seven days after the board chairman complained that he was ineffective and mostly absent.

But Martin King also has had his share of success with the SCLC. Three years ago, he threatened a tourism boycott of Georgia because of the Confederate emblem on the state flag. Last summer, the SCLC joined other organizations to re-create the historic March on Washington, where his father delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963.

Martin King has spoken out against racial profiling, police brutality, the Patriot Act and the war in Iraq.

Sun sets in Alaska until Jan. 23

BARROW, Alaska (AP) - The sun is setting on America's northernmost city and won't be seen again for two months.

After Tuesday, residents of this city of 4,400 people on the Arctic Sea, about 330 miles from the Arctic

Circle, may see a snippet of sun above the horizon for a few more days, depending on their elevation and the distorting effects of the atmosphere. But after that, the sun will not be seen again until Jan. 23.

"The sun is greatly over-

rated," said Bob Bolger, who works with computers.

To give people a chance to soak up the last few rays Tuesday, Barrow was planning a "Goodbye to the Sun" two-mile run, bike, ski and walk.

High-tech jobs continue to evaporate in industry

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - About 12 percent of the nation's high-tech jobs have evaporated during the past two years, but the meltdown appears to be in its final stages, according to an industry report to be released Wednesday.

After wiping out 540,000 jobs in 2002, high-tech employers are on pace to lay off another 234,000 workers this year, based on figures compiled by the AeA, a trade group formerly known as the American Electronics Association.

Based on the AeA's estimates, the high-tech industry will end this year with about 5.73 million workers, down from 6.5 million employees at the end of 2001.

The 2002 contraction included 146,000 job losses in the software sector, the first time employment in that high-tech niche has fallen in the seven years that AeA has been compiling its state-of-the-industry report.

California, long a high-tech magnet, accounted for 123,000 job losses in 2002, or 22 percent of the national total, the AeA said. The study didn't provide a state-by-state breakdown on the 2003 job cuts.

As hard hit as it was, California ended 2002 with 994,700 high-tech jobs - more than twice as many as Texas, the nation's second largest high-tech hub with 478,900 employees.

Wyoming was the nation's most sparsely populated high-tech state, with 4,357 employees in the

industry. Wyoming added 453 high-tech workers in 2002, joining Montana as the only states where the industry's payroll increased. Montana gained 68 high-tech workers in 2002.

Despite its woes, the high-tech industry remains one of the nation's biggest private-sector employers and continues to pay some of the best wages, with its workers earning an average of \$66,300 in 2001, the most recent year for which the AeA had compensation data.

The high-tech industry's payroll totaled \$433 billion

in 2001, accounting for about 11 percent of the nation's wages, the AeA said.

The AeA depicted this year's work force erosion as an encouraging sign, noting that the projected job losses represent a significant improvement from the 2002 purge.

With the improving economy helping boost corporate spending on computer hardware and software, the high-tech industry should begin adding jobs during the spring, predicted William Archey, the AeA's president and chief executive officer.

Leader:

Campus said they miss Strode after retirement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as business manager, but will also report to the acting director and be a department liaison. He will also manage communications as well as account and functional staff.

Nantz has worked at Eastern for 13 years. He said Strode is well-liked and has been an asset to the university.

"A good strength is that she has the ability to listen, understand and get along with people," Nantz said.

Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs, is putting together a search committee to find Strode's replacement. Chat Chatterji will be leading the search and will chair the screening committee, Cooley said.

"Carol has done so much for this institution," he said. The finishing touches are falling into place for Strode's search, Cooley said.

"I believe we need someone with a broad understanding of facilities operations, strong leadership skills, and excellent 'customer service' orientation and a good sense of humor," Cooley said in an e-mail Tuesday.

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Brittany Ridge: 4 bedroom for 4 or 5 people. 2 1/2 bath, dishwasher, washer/dryer, DSL. Great floor plan. Local, Responsive landlord. \$210/person 348-8886, leave message.

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3 Br. Apartment, needs 1 roommate, sink in room, Millennium Place, rent debatable. Call 348-9392.

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Female sublessor needed for Spring. 3 bedroom apt, own bedroom w/ sink vanity, low utilities. East of Old Main next to Joey's. Call Jamie @ 348-9301.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1008

ACROSS

1Wager in Russian roulette?

6Swindle

10Pie perch

14First name in TV talk

15Secretary of Labor Elaine

16Plum or gum

17Face the judge

19Hindu deity

20Kind of welder

21Like “O”

22Door pounder’s demand

24Hirsute Tibetans

26Nitpick

28Diner music players, in brief

30Corner piece

31Revolutionary figure?

33Budge

34Up to, informally

37Hardly classy

38One side of an issue

39“Forget it!”

41“Shoot!”

42Hammerlock, e.g.

44Dilates

45Actress Skye

46Confine

47Contract, as in pain

51Emperor’s rebuke

54Delhi expenditure

55It may be bleeped

57Longing

58The U.N.’s Kofi Annan

59Beat it

62Gift tag word

63Hurler Hershiser

64Common thing?

65Till stack

66Scale deduction

67Beef on the hoof

DOWN

1Mention again

2Extremist

3Theme of this puzzle

4Football Hall-of-Famer Ford

5Prefix with skeleton

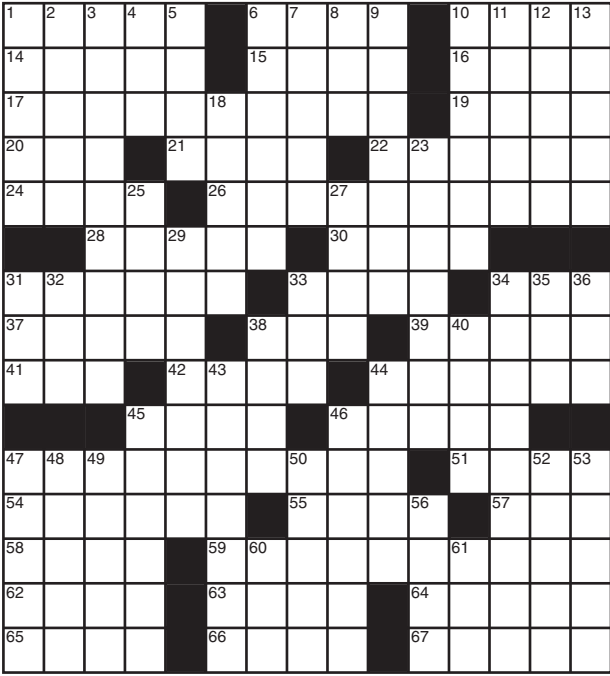
6Fido’s fare, maybe

7“Cool it!”

8Jump-offering org.

9 cocktail

10Ripken’s record, e.g.



Puzzle by Peter Sarrett

11Qom resident

12Ring-tailed primate

13Abrupt transitions

18Sports bar fixture

23Suns’ spot

25Done for

27Pressing need

29Peeper’s place

31School grp.

32 Cruces

33Like the Who, in the 60’s

34Theme of this puzzle

35Actor McKellen

36Fleur-de-_____

381963 role for Liz

40Garfield’s pal

43Nonrecurring

44Value

45Steel supports

46John or Paul

47Object of a 1960’s protest

48Bizarre

49Author Sinclair

50Person in a booth, maybe

52Flirt

53In a trance

56Shell competitor

60“Science Friday” host Flatow

61On Soc. Sec.

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CAMPUS CLIPS

EIU CYCLING CLUB: Formational Meeting Nov. 19 at 7pm in the Physical Science Bldg. Rm 2167. All cyclists are encouraged to attend a meeting to discuss the formation of an EIU Cycling Club. Contact Dr. Andrew at 581-3220 or Ed Thomas at 345-1316.

MICA: Technology workshop Nov. 19 at 6pm in the Sharon Rm of Union. Roger Holmes will be here to discuss and show the connection of state of web technology, Infrastructure Business, and more. Please come out to this informative workshop.

Massachusetts high court rules ban on gay marriage unconstitutional

By JENNIFER PETER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BOSTON (AP) – Massachusetts’ highest court ruled Tuesday that same-sex couples are legally entitled to wed under the state constitution, but stopped short of allowing marriage licenses to be issued to the couples who challenged the law.

The Supreme Judicial Court’s 4-3 ruling ordered the Legislature to come up with a solution within 180 days.

The ruling closely matches the 1999 Vermont Supreme Court decision, which led to its Legislature’s approval in 2000 of civil unions that give couples many of the same benefits of marriage.

“Marriage is a vital social institution. The exclusive commitment of two individuals to each other nurtures love and mutual support. It brings stability to our society,” Chief Justice Margaret Marshall wrote in the long-awaited ruling. “For those who choose to marry,

and for their children, marriage provides an abundance of legal, financial and social benefits. In return, it imposes weighty legal, financial, and social obligations.”

While a victory for gay rights advocates, the decision fell short of what the seven couples who sued the state had hoped to receive: the right to marry their longtime companion.

The Massachusetts question will now return to the Legislature, which already is considering a constitutional amendment that would legally define a marriage as a union between one man and one woman. The state’s powerful Speaker of the House, Tom Finneran of Boston, has endorsed this proposal.

A similar initiative, launched by citizens, was defeated by the Legislature last year on a procedural vote.

Gay and lesbian advocates had been cheered by a series of advances this year, including a U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down anti-sodomy

laws, the ordination of an openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, and a Canadian appeals court ruling that it was unconstitutional to deny gay couples the same marriage rights as heterosexual couples. Belgium and the Netherlands also have legalized gay marriage.

In addition to Vermont, courts in Hawaii and Alaska have previously ruled that the states did not have a right to deny marriage to gay couples. In those two states, the decisions were followed by the adoption of constitutional amendments limiting marriage to heterosexual couples. No American court has ordered the issuance of a marriage license.

The U.S. House is currently considering a constitutional ban on gay marriage. President Bush, although he believes marriage should be defined as a union between one man and one woman, recently said that a constitutional amendment is not yet necessary.

Man champions marijuana cookery

By PAUL WOOD
THE (CHAMPAIGN) NEWS-GAZETTE

CHAMPAIGN (AP) – The munchies are nothing to giggle about when you’re ill and lack any appetite whatsoever.

A local Rastafarian, Chef Ra, says marijuana-induced food consumption might be a lifesaver for people undergoing chemotherapy or enduring infection by HIV.

Chef Ra is a radio host at WEFT-FM and reggae regular on the Champaign club circuit with his 5-foot-long dreadlocks and broad smile. He also writes humorous columns for High Times magazine, a pro-marijuana publication.

But he says his column and a new DVD both contain serious recipes for cannabis-based dishes that are written with ill, and sometimes starving, people in mind.

The illegal drug is not generally part

of mainstream medicine.

The Illinois State Medical Society has no policy on cannabis other than to “not endorse the legalization of the possession or use of marijuana,” said spokeswoman Kelly Elwood.

The American Medical Association says it is interested in research on the subject.

A policy statement on its Web site “calls for further adequate and well-controlled studies of marijuana and related cannabinoids in patients who have serious conditions for which pre-clinical, anecdotal or controlled evidence suggests possible efficacy and the application of such results to the understanding and treatment of disease.”

Chef Ra says he jokes about ganja use, but it is no laughing matter.

“An appetite restored, or some other therapeutic benefit, to someone with a

chronic illness like multiple sclerosis, is nothing to joke about,” he says. “I sometimes use humor so people will halfway listen to me.”

The new DVD, “Chef Ra’s Ganja Gourmet,” is available from High Times for \$24.95.

According to the High Times Web site, the DVD offers such recipes as “Springtime Ganja Nachos,” “Rasta Pasta Pesto,” and “Ultimate Hash Brownies,” as well as “the secret to making perfect ganja butter.”

Chef Ra has clearly come a long way since his youth, when he remembers being class president of Urbana High School in 1969.

A trip to Woodstock, a growing impatience with the Vietnam War, experiences with the Black Panthers, college classes in political science and 28 years of living as a Rastafarian have all shaped his views.

Book on transsexuals being investigated

EVANSTON (AP) – Northwestern University officials will form a committee to investigate accusations that a psychology professor who wrote a controversial book on transsexuals did not get permission to include his research subjects in the work.

J. Michael Bailey’s latest book, “The Man Who Would Be Queen: The Science of Gender-Bending and Transsexualism,” includes stories from several transsexuals on gender-bending.

Northwestern’s vice president for research, C. Bradley Moore, wrote in a Nov. 12 letter to one of the subjects that the dean of the university’s arts and sci-

ence college recommends a full investigation. Moore also wrote he agreed with the dean’s recommendation and wanted a committee formed to investigate the allegations.

Northwestern spokesman Al Cabbage said an investigative committee will be formed to look into the allegations, which could violate university ethics guidelines if true.

Bailey did not immediately return telephone messages left Tuesday at his office.

Anjelica Kieltyka, who filed a complaint about Bailey with Northwestern in July, sees the university’s action as a positive step.

“I think it definitely gives credence to the complaints and the evidence that we were presenting,” said Kieltyka, whose experiences were included in Bailey’s book.

His book relies on interviews with people seeking sex-change surgery and other transsexuals he talked to over the years to weave a narrative that he says depicts the transsexual experience and is supported by the latest research on transsexuals.

Critics say Bailey’s work is based on outdated research and presents a skewed perspective of the transsexual community that is popular with religious and political conservatives.

ComEd drops quick rate review process

SPRINGFIELD (AP) – ComEd placated Gov. Rod Blagojevich who vowed to veto its merger with Illinois Power if it was tied to a rate increase. Now the utility giant has to convince lawmakers that the proposal’s a good idea even without increasing rates.

ComEd withdrew a request Monday to speed up the process of raising the rates that ComEd and Illinois Power charge customers under Blagojevich’s veto threat. ComEd was trying to win legislative approval for a sped-up review of its bid to purchase Decatur-based Illinois Power and to seek higher rates for Illinois Power customers beginning in 2007.

“I will not sign legislation that will expedite that process, a process that could ultimately lead to a rate increase for consumers – not for Commonwealth Edison customers, not for Illinois Power customers,” Blagojevich said at a news conference in Chicago.

“If they feel that this is the only way they can buy Illinois Power, then evidently they shouldn’t buy Illinois Power,” he said.

Exelon issued a statement shortly afterward saying the company had withdrawn the rate request. Exelon chairman John Rowe said it was obvious the rate hike wouldn’t be approved so a new strategy was needed.

“We made a proposal we think is good,” Rowe said after a House committee hearing on the measure Monday afternoon in Springfield. “We’ve made a lot of progress with what the governor said today, but until the Legislature acts, the Legislature hasn’t acted. We’re optimistic. We’ve tried to be very creative in answering those concerns that we could.”

But consumer groups continue to oppose the measure, and some lawmakers still expressed skepticism that it was a good deal for consumers.

“This is a rush job ... and I think it would be a mistake,” said Rep. Eileen Lyons, R-Western Springs, during a House committee hearing on the measure Monday afternoon in Springfield.

Exelon originally wanted an expedited rate review for ComEd and Illinois Power customers but narrowed the proposal’s scope last week to include only Illinois Power. The change came after consumer groups criticized the idea, and many lawmakers hesitated to vote for anything that might result in a rate increase.

Blagojevich said he would agree to legislation that requires the Illinois Commerce Commission to review the Illinois Power purchase within nine months, a process that usually takes about a year.

He said there should be no change in the way the commission reviews and sets rates for either ComEd or Illinois Power customers. He said both companies need to follow the rate review schedule contained in current law.

“That review is supposed to take place beginning in the year 2005 and ending sometime in 2006. That’s what the law requires,” Blagojevich said. “That’s when Commonwealth Edison should seek its rate review.”

Martin Cohen, executive director of the watchdog Citizens Utility Board, called the governor’s position “entirely appropriate and we agree with it.”

But CUB and other consumer groups say the measure could restrict the ICC’s review of the agreements that Exelon could enter with ComEd to purchase power. Those agreements could inflate Exelon’s profits by charging ComEd higher rates for purchasing power and then passing those increases on to consumers, and the ICC would have little choice but to approve those higher rates, they contend.

Rowe denied that the agreements could be a backdoor way to get a rate increase.

Man gets finger stuck in pay phone

EAST ST. LOUIS (AP) – A man was rushed to an area emergency room with his finger stuck in a pay phone.

Emanuel Fleming of Cahokia says he was trying to retrieve his 50 cents on Monday morning when his middle finger became wedged inside the phone’s coin return slot.

“The bone in my finger felt like it was going to break. My finger was numb. It was very painful,” he said.

The elementary school janitor said the phone was conveniently located near a busy East St. Louis bus stop.

“People on the bus who know me were laughing at me,” he said.

Fleming tried to call his wife, but the line was busy. Then, two passers-by tried to help. When they failed to free him, Fleming used his other hand to dial 911.

Emergency crews and a representative of the company that owns the phone were sent to the scene. But they were also unable to free Fleming.

And so, with few other options left, medical personnel with the Simmons Ambulance Co. cut the telephone off at the base. They then transported Fleming and the pay phone to St. Mary’s Hospital where doctors gave him a pain killer and pried the finger lose using a wooden device and lubricant.

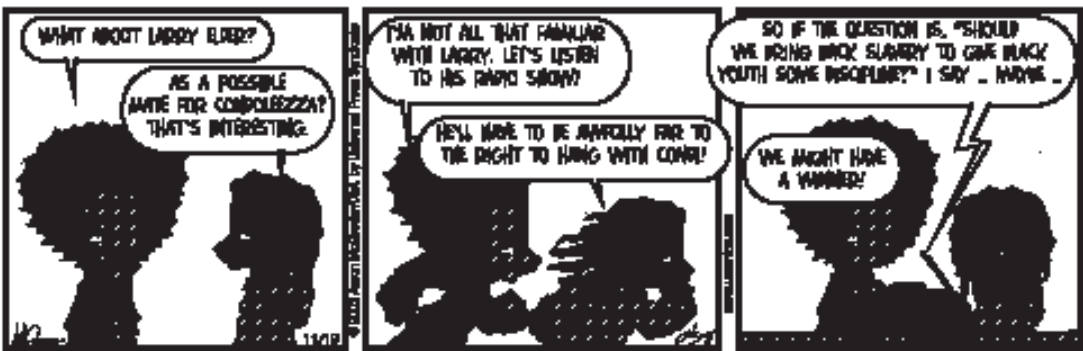
His finger had been stuck for more than three hours.

“I’ve been in this business more than 30 years and I’ve seen a lot of weird things, but never anyone trapped in a telephone,” Simmons Ambulance manager Herb Simmons said.

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY MILLER



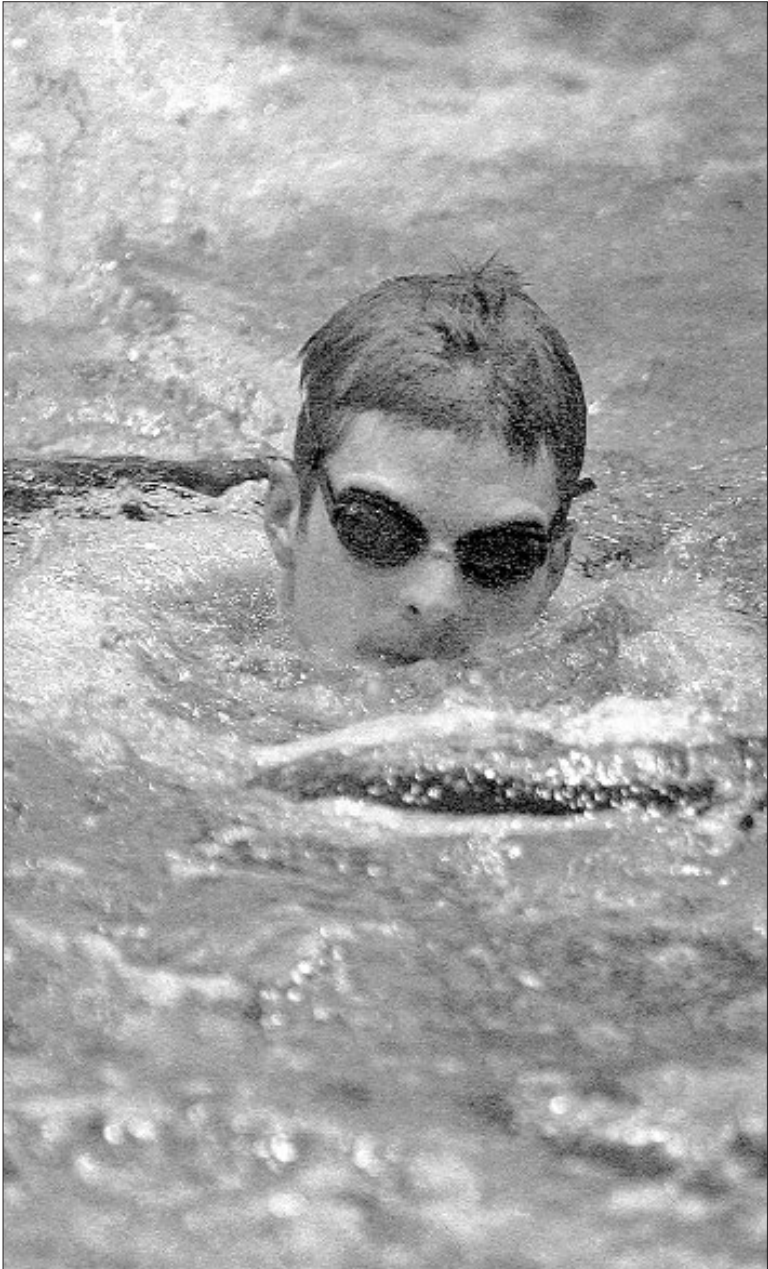
BOONDOCKS BY AARON MCGRUDER



“He’s been like a mentor to me and has helped a lot.” - Bill Senese

TOP CAT

Rich beyond his dreams



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE
Rich Wahlgren won the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle in each of the last three meets. The senior works out at the Lantz Natatorium Tuesday.

♦ *Editor’s note: Top Cat is a weekly series taking an in-depth look at Eastern’s top athlete from the previous week. Winners are selected just once. Selections are made by The Daily Eastern News sports staff.*

By Michael Gilbert
SPORTS REPORTER

After losing two of its top swimmers in Josh Kercheval and Nic Cheviron last year to graduation and having a dozen freshmen on the roster, not much was expected from the 2003-04 men’s swim team.

However, returning senior Rich Wahlgren has taken a year possibly set aside for rebuilding into a season that could result with the Panthers swimming their way to a Midwest Classic Championship.

Wahlgren has been nothing short of amazing this year with nine individual first-place finishes in just seven meets. The freestyler from Palos Heights has been dominating as of late, winning both the 100 and 200-yard freestyle in each of the last three meets.

Wahlgren doesn’t know exactly why he has been swimming past the competition in these two events, but if he had to pinpoint one key to the wins he would credit his work ethic.

“I’m not sure why I’ve been so successful,” Wahlgren said. “It’s probably just showing up to practice and working hard every day.”

His hard work is certainly paying off. In a meet against Evansville earlier this month, Wahlgren set a new season-best in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:45.69. In the process of setting a new season-best time, Wahlgren won the event for the sixth time this season.

Fast times weren’t always Wahlgren’s thing. He remembers his first swim over 15 years ago like it was yesterday, and he wasn’t exactly the speed demon he is now.

“I was five years old and with my parents one day when I signed up at a Boys and Girls Club,” Wahlgren said. “My first lap around the pool took me two minutes and 45 seconds to complete.”

Since that first lap in the pool, Wahlgren definitely picked up the pace. A star on the Staggs swim team, Wahlgren credits the reputation of Panther swim coach Ray Padovan for coming to Eastern.

“Ray came highly recommended by my high school coach,” Wahlgren said. “I wanted to stay in the state so it was a good fit.”

During his four years at Eastern, Wahlgren has

learned a great deal from Padovan to become a leader on the team. With last year’s co-captains Kercheval and Cheviron departing, Wahlgren has become a leader on a team filled with freshmen.

“A lot of what I do (leadership wise) is just trying to lead in the footsteps of Josh and Nic,” Wahlgren said. “They were my roommates last year and I learned a lot from them and now I’m passing that on to the team.”

One person Wahlgren has taken under his wing is freshman freestyler Bill Senese. The Hickory Hills native has gotten off to red-hot collegiate career, and some of that success can be traced back to Wahlgren.

“Rich has really been a great leader for me,” Senese said. “He’s been like a mentor to me and has helped a lot.”

Wahlgren and Senese have ties that go back farther than the last three months at Eastern. In high school, both attended Staggs and swam together for one season when Wahlgren was a senior and Senese was a freshman. Both said a bond was formed and Wahlgren was a key recruiter to help land Senese in Charleston.

“I was part of the recruiting process with Senese because I did know him from high school,” Wahlgren said. “I’m not sure if I’m a mentor to him, but I have talked to him on how to improve certain things.”

After a slow start that saw the men lose two of their first three dual meets, the team has turned the corner with wins in the last two meets and a first-place finish in the Panther Invitational. Wahlgren, a key part of the recent success, thinks the Panthers have put their early season struggles behind them.

“Yeah, we’re coming around,” Wahlgren said. “We’re getting to know the freshman squad and we have a great group of kids.”

With just four months left in his collegiate swimming career, Wahlgren is hoping his tenure for the blue and white ends with a Midwest Classic Championship in February.

“It’s (Midwest Classic Championship) very important to me and has been our goal since the start of the year,” Wahlgren said. “Last year it was disappointing when we failed to win, but this year we have 12 returning swimmers and 12 freshmen so we have a new, fresh squad.”


Only time will tell whether Wahlgren’s wish is granted, but with him in the pool, the Panthers are never dead in the water.

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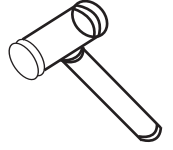


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Panther sports calendar

THURSDAY	Swimming at Saint Louis	5:30 p.m.
FRIDAY	W Basketball vs. Indiana-Northwest	7:05 p.m. Lantz
SATURDAY	Football vs. Samford	1:30 p.m. O'Brien
	M Basketball at NIU	7 p.m.
	Wrestling at Missouri Open	All Day



TEERING OFF

Michael Gilbert
SPORTS REPORTER

Thanking those in the sports world

With the Thanksgiving holiday right around the corner, I, like everyone, am thankful for many things. So I figured I would stray from the usual column format to list the eight items I'm most appreciative of. Since this is a sports column, I'll keep this related to athletics on the collegiate and professional front.

Pro-Grass – The surface made of chopped tires is safer on the joints than Astroturf and easier to maintain than real grass. Coaches and players rave about this new wave of turf and Pro-Grass seems to be catching on. Schools like Wisconsin, Michigan and Northern Illinois all have switched to a carpet similar to the one at O'Brien Stadium.

With the Panthers suffering through a rough season on the gridiron, it must be a great sales pitch for Bob Spoo to tell potential recruits that Eastern plays on a state of the art surface.

Baseball trade rumors – I must admit I haven't smiled about Major League Baseball since Oct. 11, when the Chicago Cubs won their last game. However, after reading Paul Sullivan's article in *The Chicago Tribune* last week, I couldn't help but smirk.

The article stated the Cubs could possibly reel in American League Most Valuable Player Alex Rodriguez for starting pitcher Carlos Zambrano, reliever Kyle Farnsworth, shortstop Alex Gonzalez and a couple of prospects. Having Rodriguez at short to start next season would sure take some of the sting away from the post season collapse.

Eastern's women's soccer team – Without question the best team on campus. Although the girls lost in the first round to Missouri, they made every student proud to be a Panther by winning the Ohio Valley Conference tournament for the third straight year. The team will lose a few key seniors, but with keeper Tiffany Groene back for two more seasons, continued OVC dominance is not out of the question.

Michael Jordan – Unfortunately it's a belated thanks, but "M-Jeff" is sorely missed in the National Basketball Association. Hopefully we all took time to enjoy him because even though the NBA may claim it is in good hands with LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony and Tim Duncan, it's not the same without Superman.

Jerry Stackhouse and Steve Kerr may claim he's not the greatest teammate, but "M-Jeff" sure did have a flare for the dramatic. His shot against Cleveland in 1989 and his performance in game five of the 1997 NBA Finals will go down as two of the greatest sports moments of all time.

The Eastern coaches – Front men and women like swimming's Ray Padovan, volleyball's Brenda Winkeler, women's soccer's Steve Ballard and cross country's John

WOMEN'S SOCCER

This end hurt a little more



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Sophomore defender Lee Ann Langsfeld fights for the ball in the Panthers' 1-0 loss to Missouri in the first round of the Women's College Cup. Langsfeld was a key component to Eastern's backfield as it won a third consecutive Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

◆ *Season full of high expectations ends with disappointment*

By Matt Williams
SPORTS EDITOR

THE EASTERN WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM HAS A BITTER TASTE LEFT IN ITS MOUTH. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON, THE PANTHERS HAD A GOAL TO GET TO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT FOR A THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR.

They achieved that, but that was only part of the goal. Eastern wanted to go there and win. Friday's 1-0 loss to Missouri in the first round of the Women's College Cup may be the worst loss Eastern coach Steve Ballard has suffered since the program began in 1995.

"I think there was genuine disappointment in that loss and it was a great effort against a great team," Ballard said.

The loss to Missouri wasn't like the previous two years because Ballard strongly feels his team had every chance of winning that game.

"We matched up against them well athletically, and I think we had a good chance to win," Ballard said. "Against Notre Dame (two years ago), we did not match up so well."

Also on the downside, Eastern will be losing three seniors whom Ballard has grown fond of in their four years. Forwards Beth Liesen and Teri LaRoche and midfielder Lori Stutzman will all be missed.

"As a group, they have stuck with our program for four years," Ballard said. "They have given blood, sweat and tears and they had what it takes to make our team a championship program."

While starting all 84 of her collegiate games, Liesen scored a school and Ohio Valley Conference record with 62 goals and 149 points. She was on the First Team All-OVC for four years and was named OVC Player of the Year this season.

LaRoche is known mostly for her clutch performances in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournaments. Two years in a row, LaRoche was in position to win the game for her team on a final penalty kick, and both times she came through. She

SEE HURT ◆ Page 10

VOLLEYBALL

Panthers sign recruit

◆ *Mother McAuley senior brings well-rounded play*

By Matt Williams
SPORTS EDITOR

The Eastern volleyball team signed its only scheduled recruit for the year as Mother McAuley senior Kera Griffin signed a National Letter of Intent Monday.

Griffin, a 5-foot-11 middle hitter, led Mother McAuley to a 36-4 overall record and a spot in the Class AA state quarterfinals.

Griffin was named to the *Daily Southtown* and *Chicago Sun-Times* All-Area teams and was an All-Girls Catholic Athletic Conference pick.

"Kera is a very talented indi-

vidual," Eastern coach Brenda Winkeler said. "She comes from a team from McAuley who is a state powerhouse."

She is already familiar with two of the current players on the Panther roster by playing 2nd City club volleyball with Sarah Niedospial and Mary Welch.

"They are very excited to have her coming here," Winkeler said. "The familiarity of someone having people she has played with is something that is good."

Griffin brings a lot of experience to Eastern and comes from a volleyball family. Her older sister Meg is an outside hitter at the University of Illinois.

Winkeler hopes Griffin can improve the Panthers' 9-23 overall record, and most importantly, get them back into the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament after not qualifying the last two years.

"She will bring a lot of experience and talent to this team and hopefully she can make a difference right away," Winkeler said.



Brenda Winkeler

OVC FOOTBALL

A battle for first

◆ *SEMO and Jacksonville State fight for OVC championship*

By Matthew Stevens
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

For the first time in history, Cape Girardeau, Mo., will host a game for all the marbles.

The 2003 Ohio Valley Conference Championship will come down to a man-on-man street fight between the up and coming challenger and the newcomer.

The host, Southeast Missouri State Indians (5-6, 5-2), will attempt to win its first OVC title in school history when they take on Jacksonville State (7-3, 6-1) in its first season in the league.

Indians head coach Tim Billings still doesn't think his squad is quite capable of beating one of the strongest teams in the conference.

"We are struggling to win and they're putting people out in the first half," Billings said. "We're facing the most exciting and best

football team since I've been here."

However, the Gamecocks aren't excited about traveling to play in an unofficial championship game because the home crowd will make a difference.

"I think the favorite would have to be the home team because the defenses are playing the best," Jacksonville State head coach Jack Crowe said. "These two teams are even and then we have to go on the road."

The road wasn't easy for Jacksonville State and SEMO to control their own destiny in the OVC race.

Jacksonville State lost two of its first three non-conference games which caused a concern in its head coach about his team's ability to string together consecutive victories.

"We had some big adversity which made me question whether we were capable to get to this point," Crowe said.

SEE FIRST ◆ Page 10